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[Inclosure No. 813—Marine.]

MARINE DEPARTMENT, *Calcutta, April 14, 1898.*

SIR: I am directed to inform you that Karachi having been declared an infected port, the officers concerned have been instructed to strictly enforce the rules for quarantine in the port of Calcutta against vessels arriving from Karachi.

I have the honor to be, sir, your most obedient servant,

T. H. CLOWES,
Under Secretary.

The CONSUL-GENERAL FOR AMERICA.

JAPAN.

Sanitary report from Yokohama—Plague increasing in Hongkong.

UNITED STATES MARINE-HOSPITAL SERVICE,
Yokohama, Japan, May 11, 1898.

SIR: I am unable to forward my regular report of infectious disease by this mail, but am able to state that the few cases of cholera, noted in my letter of April 29, as having occurred in Tokyo and Yokohama, have, since that date, been followed by no others of undoubted genuineness. The sanitary condition throughout the Empire, with the exception of Formosa, where the plague appears to be slowly but steadily increasing in severity, is, on the whole, very satisfactory.

The increasing prevalence of plague in Hongkong at a time when, as at present, an unusual number of Chinese passengers are going to United States ports, calls for special strictness in the examination of vessels, which I am endeavoring to enforce.

I have the honor to be, sir, very respectfully, your obedient servant,
STUART ELDRIDGE, M. D.,
Sanitary Inspector, U. S. M. H. S.

The SUPERVISING SURGEON-GENERAL,
U. S. Marine-Hospital Service.

TURKEY.

Sanitary report from Constantinople—Case of plague at Suez.

LEGATION OF THE UNITED STATES,
Constantinople, May 10, 1898.

SIR: I beg herewith to inclose report No. 191 of Dr. Zavitziano of the International Sanitary Commission. I call your attention to the fact that there has been 1 fatal case of bubonic plague on a steamer at Suez.

I have the honor to be, sir, your obedient servant,

JAMES B. ANGELL.

Hon. SECRETARY OF STATE.

[Inclosure—Report No. 191.]

CONSTANTINOPLE, *May 8, 1898.*

As I have already stated in my previous report, there has not been any fresh bubonic plague in Djiddah since the 19th of last April, for at yesterday's sitting of the International Sanitary Commission it was decided that Dr. Cozzonis, the inspector-general of the sanitary administration, will come back to resume his duties of general inspectorship.

At the same sitting there was communicated the news of the appearance of bubonic plague at Suez (Egypt) among the men of the Egyptian steamship *Mahale* which arrived from Djiddah. She left the latter place on April 23 and arrived April 30 at Suez, where, after a medical inspection, she got free pratique. May 5 one of the fire-

men fell ill, presenting the symptoms of bubonic plague. We do not know if this fireman had landed at Djiddah, and if he had any communication with patients suffering from bubonic plague. We have asked for such details. As a consequence of said appearance of bubonic plague at Suez, the Russian sanitary representative has proposed to take some sanitary steps in order to prevent the spread of the evil in Turkey. Is there any case of bubonic plague at Suez? The above-mentioned fireman—was he on board the steamship *Mahale* or in the town? We know only that the steamship *Mahale*, on board of which the fireman was serving, has been disinfected and isolated. We do not know if there were passengers on board said ship. After a long discussion, Dr. Karacanowsky, the Russian sanitary representative, proposed that passengers arriving from Egypt, not excepting Alexandria, should be submitted to a medical visit. The majority of the other members of the International Sanitary Commission were opposed to the proposed medical visits.

The French sanitary representative communicated some extracts from the reports of the French consul at Djiddah. He states that in Egypt the newspapers have published a telegram from the governor of Djiddah to the Ottoman Government, according to which bubonic plague has never existed in Djiddah; that the sanitary officials of the latter town have stated its existence. The French consul adds that he can not affirm the existence of said telegram, but he reports the fact that many and many copies of the newspapers containing said telegram have been distributed among the population of Djiddah. The above-mentioned consul reports also that this year's bubonic plague was imported last year by Indian pilgrims arrived from Karachi and landed at Lith without undergoing any sanitary survey, and that all through the year there have been sporadic bubonic plague cases. He further states that in spite of the orders given by the central authorities of Constantinople, there was a continual commerce between Djiddah and Ras-el-Assuad; that the inhabitants of Djiddah were going to Ras-el-Assuad and coming back freely; that the population of Djiddah as well as the pilgrims are so much incited against the sanitary officials that it would be impossible to put into execution any sanitary measures. As a consequence, it would be impossible to have the city of Djiddah isolated. The military forces could not resist the population, namely, the pilgrims, who would enter Djiddah in spite of the orders given, and not go to Ras-el-Assuad, where, according to what has been reported to the above-mentioned French consul, and contrary to the previous information we have received, there is no water, no food, no shelter.

I have already stated in my previous report that before the first bubonic plague case had occurred at Djiddah there was 1 at Nuslah, one of the surrounding villages of Djiddah. It was officially stated at the last sitting of the International Sanitary Commission that said village, as well as all the villages between Djiddah and Mecca and the latter town, are enjoying perfect health.

According to the last news from the province of Hedjaz, it has rained. I have already stated that in the Hedjaz in consequence of the drought, famine was to be dreaded.

According to official news the existence of bubonic plague in Calcutta is confirmed. In Karachi it still continues raging epidemically. From the 6th to the 12th of last April, 51 bubonic plague cases have been registered, of which 31 proved fatal. In Bombay, from the 5th to the 12th of April, 652 bubonic plague deaths have been registered, and from the 18th to the 25th of the same month only 465 deaths occurred.

In Constantinople we have always to deal with influenza, measles, typhoid fever, and smallpox. There are also many cases of chicken pox, as well as of mumps. Chicken pox presents rather a severe character, and as a consequence I do not suppose it would be astonishing to see persons making a confusion with true smallpox, of which, it is reported, there is a widespread epidemic. I do not suppose it is easy to deny the existence of the latter epidemic, but according to the death rate returns the smallpox deaths are not in the proportion of an epidemic. I have seen a baby fifteen months old who fell ill with temperature of 40.5 C. She presented the symptoms of congestion of the lungs, and the second day I have heard in the left lung the whiffly breathing of croupous pneumonia. Two days after the pneumonia symptoms disappeared and a strong eruption of chicken pox appeared. The high temperature did not subside till five days after, and after a week the baby got well. There are also many cases of mumps and whooping cough. No cases of the latter two diseases have proved fatal.

SPIRIDION C. ZAVITZIANO,
United States Sanitary Commissioner.